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January 21, 1985

The Honorable Carl J. Kunasek  
Arizona State Senate  
State Capitol - Senate Wing  
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

Re: I85-005 (R84-200)

Dear Senator Kunasek:

This letter is in response to your inquiry regarding the election of the state committee of a political party as required by A.R.S. § 16-825. Recent amendments to A.R.S. §§ 16-821 and 825 change the basis for determining the number of precinct committeemen to be elected in each precinct from the number of votes cast in the preceding general election to the number of registered voters in the precinct. They also change the basis for determining the size of the state committee from the number of votes cast to the number of members of the county committee elected as precinct committeemen pursuant to A.R.S. § 16-821.

Your inquiry arises from the fact that, although the effective date for these amendments which change the number and composition of the state committee of a political party is December 31, 1984, the procedure for selecting state committeemen may begin before that date. Notwithstanding this fact, we conclude that the procedure set forth in A.R.S. § 16-821 as amended and effective as of December 31, 1984, should be followed after that date.

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It is our understanding that the state committee meetings to be held following the general election in November of 1984 are scheduled to occur after December 31, 1984. Under these circumstances, we conclude that the proper procedures for electing state committeemen for a state committee meeting to be held after December 31, 1984 should follow the procedure as set forth in A.R.S. § 16-825 as amended.

Sincerely,



BOB CORBIN  
Attorney General

BC:JBS:tc